

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 3. This sheet, which includes Fig. 3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3. Replacement Fig. 3 now properly recites the term “potential”.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Replacement Figure 3 presented with the present response now properly recites the term “potential”, to address the objection noted in paragraph 4 of the Office Action.

The specification is amended by the present response to address the objection noted in paragraph 5 of the Office Action.

The specification was also objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the subject matter recited in claims 3, 8, and 13. In response to that feature applicants respectfully submit the specification supports that claimed subject matter. The Office Action indicates that Figure 2 shows a third potential generation circuit in element 5. In that respect applicants note that sense amplifier reference potential generation circuit 5 in Figure 2 does not generate a potential dependent on temperature. However, applicants draw attention to Figure 14 in the specification. In Figure 14 sense amplifier reference potential generation circuit 31 generates a potential that does depend on the temperature, i.e. which is dependent on temperature. Attention is also directed to the specification at page 23, lines 6-19 supporting such a feature.

In such ways, the features in claims 3, 8, and 13 are believed to be fully supported by the original specification.

Claim 6 is amended by the present response to address the objection noted in paragraph 9 of the Office Action.

Claims 1 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. patent 5,550,770 to Kuroda. Claims 18-19 are allowed. Claims 2, 5, and 17 were objected to as dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were noted as allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 3, 4, and 6-15 were objected to as lacking antecedent basis as noted above.

The present response amends the claims without prejudice to recite subject matter indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office Action. More particularly, by the present amendment claim 1 is amended to now incorporate limitations from dependent claim 2, which subject matter was noted as allowable in the outstanding Office Action. Further, claim 5 is amended by the present response to now be rewritten in independent form, to also recite subject matter indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office Action. Claim 16 is amended by the present response to now incorporate limitations from dependent claim 17, to also recite subject matter indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office Action.

Each of the other claims depends from one of now independent claims 1, 5, 6, 16, and 18, each of which independent claims is believed to recite subject matter indicated as allowable in the outstanding Office Action.

In such ways, each of the pending claims as currently written is believed to recite allowable subject matter.

As only allowable claims are currently pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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